

THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMIES



United States Air Force Academy

United States Merchant Marine Academy

United States Coast Guard Academy

United States Naval Academy

United States Military Academy

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson, MS-02

United States House of Representatives

106 Green Avenue, Suite 106

Mound Bayou, Mississippi 38762

Office: (662) 741-9003

I'm what the military academy is looking for because...

I'm a leader.

I like a challenge.

I have determination.

I want a premier education.

I want to be a United States soldier.

If that's you and you want to be a part of something larger than YOURSELF, A LEADER for AMERICA in one of the United States Military Academies then you need to apply.

~ MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL APPLICANTS ~

- ❑ Be a citizen of the United States or by July 1 of the admittance year and legal residents of the 2nd Congressional District in Mississippi
- ❑ Be at least 17 years of age but not yet 23 years of age on July 1 of the admittance year
- ❑ Have good moral character
- ❑ Meet high leadership, academic, physical, and medical standards
- ❑ Be single
- ❑ Not be pregnant or have legal obligation to support a child

BENNIE G. THOMPSON
SECOND DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN

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CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL GAMING CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL RURAL CAUCUS
HOUSE EDUCATION CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2402

Greetings Students,

Thank you for your interest in attending a U.S. Service Academy. I am pleased to have you as a candidate for nomination from the State of Mississippi. Enclosed you will find the necessary materials to begin the application process.

This application process is for nomination and is separate from the application you must complete for the academies. For your convenience we have enclosed a list of the academies, for you to contact the academy of your choice to request their application.

The purpose of the nomination procedure is to present the academies with a group of qualified candidates from every area of the country. My nomination functions as a recommendation to the academies and my responsibility is to nominate the best qualified young people in the State of Mississippi. In order to do this, I ask that each candidate submit certain credentials which will be evaluated by a Screening Committee; it is than the candidate's responsibility to ensure that the information is submitted by stated deadline.

Once you have completed all of the required correspondence concerning your nomination, it should be submitted to my Mound Bayou District Office, at **P.O. Box 679, Mound Bayou, Mississippi 38732-0679, to the attention of Ms. Shander Gund, my staff representative.**

Good luck to you!

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress

BGT:sg

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Congressional Nomination Process

Steps:

- 1) Apply to the academy of your choice. You will find the contact information for each academy on page 13.
- 2) Request the application from Ms. Shander M. Gund at (662) 741-9003 or via email at shander.gund@mail.house.gov.
- 3) Submit the completed application with all the required attachments. You may email your application along with the attachments to shander.gund@mail.house.gov or mail it to Shander M. Gund, Office of Congressman Bennie G. Thompson, 106 Green Avenue, Suite 106, Mound Bayou, MS 38762.
- 4) Once your application has been received and reviewed, you will be contacted and scheduled for an interview. You must be accompanied by your parent or legal guardian.

Important Dates and Information to Remember:

- Application for Congressional Nomination must be submitted to my office by November 30, 2021.
- All interviews are conducted as applications are received before deadlines.
- Deadline for congressional office to submit nominations to the Military Academies is January 31, 2022.



The United States House of Representative



Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

Proudly Serving Mississippi's Second Congressional District

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Residency:** Applicant must be a legal resident of the Second Congressional District.
- ☐ **Application Form:** The enclosed application must be returned with all required documents.
- ☐ **Recommendation Forms:** Must be completed by each one of these individuals in your high school: principal, guidance counselor, athletic coach, and math or science teacher. Each person completing the form must place form in a sealed envelope and sign his/her signature across the seal.
- ☐ **Essay:** In at least 150 words please state why you want to attend a Military Academy. The essay must be typed and signed with an original handwritten signature. Electronic signatures are not accepted.
- ☐ **ACT/SAT Score:** An official copy of your ACT or SAT score is required. If these scores are included on your transcript, you do not need to submit additional copies. Scores may be forwarded to my Mound Bayou office directly from the testing center by using the following codes: **SAT - 1363 or ACT – 7494.**
- ☐ **Photograph:** A small (2 1/2" x 3 1/2") current photograph with your name on the back.
- ☐ **Deadline:** Send the above information to Ms. Shander M. Gund in my Mound Bayou office at 106 Green Avenue, Suite 106, Mound Bayou, MS 38762. All information must be received in my office by **Tuesday, November 30, 2021.**
- ☐ **Interview:** After all information has been received, you will be contacted and scheduled for an interview with the Advisory Board. All applicants must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for the interview.



The United States House of Representative

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

Proudly Serving Mississippi's Second Congressional District

CONGRESSIONAL APPLICATION

Are you a U.S. citizen? _____ Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

Social Security Number: xxx-xx-_____ Date of Birth _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

1) Full Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

2) Current Mailing Address: _____
(Street / P.O. Box)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

(County) Name of Parent(s) or legal guardian(s): _____

3) Mississippi Residence: *(If you listed a Post Office Box or a temporary address above, please provide permanent address.)*

(Street / P.O. Box)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

(County)

4) Home Telephone Number: (____)_____-_____ 5) Cell Phone Number: (____)_____-_____

6) Email Address: _____

EDUCATION

7) High School: _____ School Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

8) Street Address: _____

9) Date of Graduation: _____ / _____ / _____

9) High School GPA: _____ (4.0 Scale)

10) Class Rank: _____

11) Class Size: _____

12) SAT: Critical Reading _____ Math _____ Writing _____ Composite _____

13) ACT: English _____ Math _____ Reading _____ Science _____ Composite _____

MILITARY ACADEMIES PREFERENCE

14) Number your preference (1 to 4) of academies to attend. Number 1 represents your first choice.

____ Air Force ____ Merchant Marine ____ Military (West Point) ____ Naval

15) Have you applied to any of the military academies? Yes ☐ No ☐

If so, which one(s)? _____

16) Have you attended an Academy Summer Leadership Seminar? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, which Academy Leadership Seminar: _____

17) Are you currently attending an Academy Preparatory School? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, which Preparatory School: _____

18) Have you previously applied for a nomination from Congressman Thompson? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, when? _____

19) Are you currently an active participant of any of the following:

JROTC ☐ Civil Air Patrol ☐ Boy Scouts/Eagle Scouts/Gold Awards ☐

20) Have you applied for a nomination from any other source? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, which one(s)?

President ☐ Vice President ☐ U.S. Senator ☐ Service Secretary ☐ Academy Superintendent ☐

Nominator's Name: _____

21) An appointment to the Service Academies is based on a desire by the candidate to devote a lifetime of military service and implies recognition by the appointee of an obligation to the government to devote himself/herself to a military career.

Are you interested in an appointment on that basis? Yes ☐ No ☐

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please type or print your answers to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper, or submit your resume:

1. List school and community activities that you are involved.
2. List any awards or honors you have received.
3. List your hobbies.

Name of hometown newspaper: _____

Is it okay to use your name in a press release after receiving an appointment? Yes ☐ No ☐

I affirm all of the information on this form and all attachments are accurate. I also affirm I am a United States citizen and a resident of the 2nd Congressional District.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ DATE: _____
(Required)

All documentation should be received by **Tuesday, November 30, 2021**. Please send completed application and all required attachments to:

U.S. Congressman Bennie G. Thompson
106 Green Ave. – Suite 106
Mound Bayou, Mississippi 38762-0679
(662) 741-9003



The United States House of Representative

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

Proudly Serving Mississippi's Second Congressional District

RECOMMENDATION FORM

To the Applicant: This form is to be completed by a school principal, guidance counselor, athletics coach, and/or math or science teacher that is familiar with your desire and qualifications to attend a military service academy. Four Recommendation Forms (with letters) **MUST** be included with the complete application packet

To the Person making the recommendation: The service academies provide a college education and training for students to become commissioned officers in the Armed Forces following graduation. The questions below are designed to provide the information necessary to select the best qualified candidates. By law, all admissions materials must be shown to a student upon request. Please keep the November 30, 2021 deadline in mind as you return this form to the applicant, along with any additional pages or letters. Your letter of recommendation must be submitted with this form.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity? _____

2. Describe the applicant's talent, strengths, and leadership ability. _____

3. How could this applicant improve in order to rise to the challenges presented by a service academy? _____

4. How does the applicant handle challenging situations and failures? _____

5. Does he/she possess the perseverance and discipline to fulfill the commitments and obligations that accompany a service academy education? _____

6. Please select the phrase that best applies to this applicant:

☐ EXCELLENT
(will excel, stands out in peer group)

☐ ABOVE AVERAGE
(has great potential to excel)

☐ FAIR
(has many fine qualities)

Printed Name: _____ Title: ☐ Principal ☐ Counselor ☐ Coach ☐ Teacher

Name of School: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: (____) _____ - _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Person Making Recommendation)

WHO ARE THE MILITARY ACADEMIES



United States Air Force Academy, *Colorado Springs, Colorado*

The United States Air Force Academy is one of the most selective colleges in America. The Air Force seeks young men and women who have the qualities and genuine motivation to succeed in a very challenging environment and whose primary goal is to serve our nation as an Air Force officer. The competition for an appointment is extremely high. You must have a proven record of achievement in academics, athletics, extracurricular activities and leadership. The Air Force professional staff and liaison officers will guide you through each step. For those who are accepted, there are endless opportunities and challenges that wait with a wonderful future in the world's premier aerospace force.



United States Coast Guard Academy, *New London, Connecticut*

The United States Coast Guard Academy is unique among the service academies in that they educate the leaders of a humanitarian force. The United States Coast Guard is the oldest life-saving service in the world. As a commissioned officer in the Coast Guard, you will be leading a force of men and women who are continually called on to serve their community, country and fellow citizens. There is no congressional nomination involved, however an applicant must be a high school graduate and have acceptable ACT or SAT scores. You may request assistance from your Congressional Representative.



United States Merchant Marines Academy, *Kings Point, New York*

The Academy's mission is clearly defined to provide America's armed forces, Merchant Marine and intermodal transportation system with professional officers and leaders of honor and integrity. Kings Point differs from the other service academies in several ways:

- When you graduate from Kings Point, you'll have a five-year maritime service obligation and a concurrent eight-year Armed Forces reserve commitment
- You will not be required to enter active duty military service
- You may apply for an officer's commission in any branch of the Armed Forces
- You are offered a full year of the on-the-job shipboard training at sea.



United States Military Academy, *West Point, New York*

West Point is dedicated to being the nation's premier institution for leader development. For two hundred years West Point has developed leaders of character for our Army who are inspired to careers as commissioned officers and a lifetime of selfless service to the nation. As a candidate you will be challenged intellectually, militarily, and physically in an environment which embraces the highest moral and ethical standards.



United States Naval Academy, *Annapolis, Maryland*

The United States Naval Academy is not like any civilian college. It is not supposed to be. The Naval Academy put students in a military as well as academic environment. Their unique mission is "To develop midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty honor and loyalty in order to provide graduates who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."

Student Activities

Voluntary cadet clubs and activities are available to develop your talents and interest outside the curriculum. Some of the student activities are swimming, band, sailing, chess, glee, honor society clubs, fencing, and football just to name a few. Each academy has much to offer its cadet inside and outside the academic spectrum.

Nomination Interview

After required information has been submitted you will be scheduled for an interview with a member from Congressman Thompson's Military Advisory Board.

Military Academies Contact Information

The academies provide information on available courses of study, activities and guidelines for applicants who may be eligible for consideration for an appointment.

For more information, you may contact the Academies at the addresses below:

U.S. Air Force Academy	(800) 443-9266
Director of Admissions	www.academyadmissions.com
2304 Cadet Drive	
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80840	

U.S. Military Academy	(845) 938-4041
Director of Admissions	www.usma.edu
646 Swift Road	
West Point, New York 10996-9902	

U.S. Naval Academy	(410) 293-4361
Director of Candidate Guidance	www.usna.edu/admissions
117 Decatur Road	
Annapolis, Maryland 21402-5018	

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy	(866) 546-4778
Admissions Office	www.usmma.edu
300 Steamboat Road	
Kings Point, New York 11024	

U.S. Coast Guard Academy	(800) 883-8724
Director of Admissions	www.cga.edu
31 Mohegan Avenue	
New London, Connecticut 06320-8103	

Note: There are no Congressional nominations to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Only a letter of recommendation is provided upon request.

Congressional Office Contact Information

You may contact my staff representative, Shander M. Gund, in my Mound Bayou District office, at (662) 741-9003 or via email at shander.gund@mail.house.gov or Ms. Fannie Ware at (601) 866-9003 or via email at fware@mail.house.gov